Docket No.: HOFMANN-5 Appl. No.: 10/540.988

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE. AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS

 (Currently amended) A sewer pipe suitable for being drawn into the ground in a horizontal boring method, comprising:

partial pipe shells;

first connecting means connecting the partial pipe shells firmly to one another to form a tubular configuration which defines a longitudinal axis; and

second connecting means for transmitting a tensile force when the sewer pipe is drawn horizontally into the ground and attached to an element selected from the group consisting of a further sewer pipe and a boring device, with wherein the second connecting means includes a rectangular recess formed in one of the sewer pipe and the element and extending in parallel relationship to the longitudinal axis, and a rectangular elevation complementing the recess and provided on the other one of the element and the sewer pipe in parallel relationship to the longitudinal axis configured to complement the second connecting means.

- (Previously presented) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least two of the partial pipe shells are connected to each other via a hinge.
- 3. (Previously presented) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least two of the partial pipe shells are connected via a latching element which is provided on the one of the two partial pipe shells and which latches into a recess in the other one of the two partial pipe shells, thereby defining the first connecting means.

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4. (Previously presented) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 3, wherein the latching element is a latching pin of the one of the partial pipe shells to engage in the recess in the form of a latching hole in the other one of the partial pipe shells.

- (Previously presented) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 3, further comprising a hinge for pivotably connecting the latching element to the one of the partial pipe shells.
- (Previously presented) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the partial pipe shells has a positioning pin for engagement in a positioning recess in a further one of the partial pipe shells, thereby defining the first connecting means.
- 7. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least ene of the partial pipe shells has an inner surface formed with a the recess is formed on an inner surface at an end of the sewer pipe for engagement by an the elevation on an outer surface of the element[[,]] with the recess and elevation defining the second connecting means.
- 8. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 1, wherein at-least one of the partial pipe shells has an inner surface formed with an the elevation is provided on an inner surface at an end of the sewer pipe for engagement into [[a]] the recess on an outer surface of the element[[,]] with the recess and elevation defining the second connecting means.
- (Previously presented) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 1, further comprising sealing elements arranged between the partial pipe shells.

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 (Previously presented) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 1, wherein the partial pipe shells are made at least partly from plastic.

 (Previously presented) The sewer pipe as claimed claim 10, wherein the plastic is reinforced with class fibers.

12.-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A method for preducing connecting a first sewer pipe string with at least one sewer pipe with an element selected from the group consisting of a second said sewer pipe and a boring device, with the first sewer pipe comprised of two pipe shells which can be connected to one another in a closed position to define a tubular configuration and opened in an open position, with the first sewer pipe and the element having each a connection member selected from the group consisting of a recess and an elevation, said method comprising the steps of:

forming a first sewer pipe from partial pipe shells:

placing the <u>element in one end of the</u> first sewer pipe—in surrounding relationship to one end of a second, when the first sewer pipe <u>assumes the</u> open position, such that one connection member selected from the group engages the other connection member of the group; and

connecting the first and second sewer pipe firmly to each other

closing the first sewer pipe to assume the closed position and thereby surround the element, with the one connection member being in full circumferential engagement with the other connecting member so as to enable a transmission of tensile forces; and

drawing the first and second sewer pipes horizontally into the ground by means of the boring device.

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17. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein at least two of the partial pipe shells of the first sewer pipe are connected by a hinge, and further comprising the step of folding the partial pipe shells together so as to embrace the end of the second-sewer pipe element.

18.-20. (Canceled)